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PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION

In accordance with Sec. 25 of the Constitution of the American Library Association, which requires that "notice of the amendments (to the Constitution) be sent to each member of the Association at least one month before final adoption," the proposed amendment to Sec. 14 of the Constitution is here printed as a communication to the membership at large. This amendment was voted for by the constitutional three-fourths of those present and voting at the Ottawa Conference in 1912, and will probably be presented for second and final vote to the Association at the Kaaterskill Conference.

VOTED, that Sec. 14 of the Constitution be amended by inserting the following clause after the words "and twenty-five by the Council itself;"

"and one member from each state, provincial and territorial library association (or any association covering two or more such geographical divisions) which complies with the conditions for such representation set forth in the by-laws."

If the above proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally adopted the Association will be called on to vote on the proposal that Sec. 3a be added to the By-laws as follows:

"Sec. 3a. Each state, territorial and provincial library association (or any association covering two or more such geographical divisions) having a membership of not less than fifteen members, may be represented in the Council by the president of such association, or by an alternate elected at the annual meeting of the association. The annual dues shall be $5.00 for each association having a membership of fifty or less, and ten cents per additional capita where membership is above that number. The privileges and advantages of the A. L. A. conferences shall be available only to those holding personal membership or representing institutional membership in the Association."

COMMITTEES

Public Documents

The Committee on Public Documents has arranged with Mr. F. A. Crandall of Washington, D. C., to present a paper at the forthcoming meeting of the government documents round table. Mr. Crandall, who was for many years connected with the Government Printing Office, is well fitted to present a paper as a basis for the discussion at this meeting. It is expected that his paper will deal principally with the past and present bibliographical infelicities found in our public documents.

GEORGE S. GODARD, Chairman.

Library Administration

The Committee on Administration is making further investigations into the details of accessioning and charging in libraries of various kinds. Additional questions have been sent out to the libraries mentioned in the Ottawa report, and a considerable number of additional libraries have been included in the scope of the investigation. Some interesting information regarding radical modification of these operations by some libraries has been received.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, Chairman.

Binding

The Committee on Binding frequently receives requests from various libraries for information about binding, and, occasionally, requests for an expression of opinion about the work of certain binders. It has always been impossible to give opinions about library binders with whose work the members of the Committee have not been familiar. The Committee has, therefore, established a collection which includes work done by many binders making a specialty of binding for libraries. Each binder has sent in samples, showing the manner in which he binds fiction, children's books and periodicals. In addition to these samples, each binder has answered a list of 24 questions relating to methods, materials, prices, etc. With these samples and answers to these questions in hand the Committee is in a position to give definite opinions upon quality and style of work whenever librarians ask for it.

It is not the purpose of the Committee to publish opinions about the work of any binder, but all questions will be gladly answered. Librarians can help to make this plan more useful:—

1. By sending to the Committee the names of library binders. The Committee already has many names, but there must be many more whose names it will be unable to obtain unless sent by those who are interested.

2. By urging binders, whom they know, to comply with the requests of the Committee.

3. By making use of the collection already established.

The publishers of the Encyclopaedia Britannica are planning to publish a Yearbook covering the year 1912, in a form to correspond with the India paper edition of the Encyclopaedia. They are not planning to issue an edition on regular paper in a special binding for the use of libraries, but indicate a willingness to do this, provided there is sufficient demand for it. Librarians who prefer the regular edition in a special binding should write at once either to the publishers of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, 116 W. 32d St., New York City, or to the chairman of the A. L. A. Committee on Binding, who will see that the protest is made to the publishers.

A. L. BAILEY, Chairman,
Wilmington (Del.) Institute Free Library.

Federal and State Relations

The Committee has endeavored to secure a lower postal rate on books, from Congress. It ascertained that it was impossible to secure inclusion of printed matter in parcel post without new legislation, and it found that there was great disinclination on the part of the Congressional Committee to pass such legislation until it had been seen what was the result of the parcel post as at present established. It also appeared that, while the parcel post rates were lower than the third-class rates in some instances, in other instances they were larger, and, for that reason, it was impossible to have the co-operation with the booksellers, which seems necessary, if a new rate is to be established. Your Committee also suggested that it might be possible to grant to books and other printed matter the same rate as is given periodicals sent by private individuals in second class matter, namely, one cent for four ounces, and while it found rather more favor for this project, of placing at the lower rate all printed matter, except magazines sent by the publishers,

it was unable to secure any definite results at the short session of Congress.

B. C. STEINER, Chairman.

REPRINT OF REPORT ON NEWSPRINT PAPER

The report of the committee on newsprint paper has been reprinted from the January Bulletin, and any specified number of copies will be sent free from the headquarters office to those who can use them to advantage in the campaign for better newspaper paper.

DISCOUNT TO LIBRARY MEMBERS

By a recent ruling of the A. L. A. Publishing Board all institutional members of the Association will be granted a discount of 10% on all A. L. A. publications on orders amounting to $1.00 or over.

This is an additional reason why all libraries having a reasonable income should be institutional members of the national association. The executive officer of the Association has recently had printed a slip mentioning briefly some of the benefits of A. L. A. institutional membership. Benefits of Membership—

1. Receipt of Bulletin of the American Library Association, six numbers a year, forming a volume of about 400 pages. One number consists of the Proceedings of the annual conference and constitutes the most important contribution of the year to library economy. Even though the librarian may be personally a member the library ought to possess an official file of this important publication.

2. Free subscription to the A. L. A. Booklist (monthly except July and August,) an invaluable guide to the selection and purchase of new books.

3. Name of the library and librarian is entered in the official Handbook of the Association, which is widely used as a mailing list by many enterprises in which libraries are interested and should profit.

4. Every institutional member may send one delegate to all meetings of the Association, who shall be entitled to special travel and hotel rates and all other privileges of an individual member.

5. Privilege of inserting free "For Sale" and "Wants" notices in the Bulletin of the Association.

6. By a recent ruling all institutional members are entitled to a 10% discount on all A. L. A. publications on orders amounting to $1.00 or more.

7. The knowledge that by your library's membership and consequent contribution through the small annual dues you are helping the Association to broaden its work, increase its means of assisting small libraries and communities, forward plans of co-operation between libraries, carry on more extensive committee work, and endeavor to bring libraries and librarians into positions of increased dignity and more adequate support and compensation.

Dues—For institutional membership—five dollars a year.

Is your library an institutional member? If not, why not?

SALE, EXCHANGE, WANTS

(Any library member of the Association may insert, without cost, a ten line notice of books or periodicals wanted, for sale or exchange.)

FOR SALE

Library of McGill University, Montreal.

Bulletin de la Société Française de Minéralogie, known before 1886 as "Bulletin de la Société Minéralogique de France," Tomes 1 to 31 (1878-1908) and 33-34 (1909-1910) inclusive, "avec les trois tables." The set is in beautiful order and nicely bound in brown cloth. Price on application.

University of Vermont Library, Burlington, Vt.

Annalen der Chemie, vols. 1-264, with Registers and Supplements.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE

Milton, Mass., Public Library.

Memoir of Robert Troup Paine. By his parents. N. Y. Trow. 1852.

Sotheby, S. L. Ramblings in the eluci-